Opening of Foreign Branches of Banks

2535. DR.Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow nationalised banks to open foreign branches; and

(b) if so, the number of clearances given so far and the countries where new branches are to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which is the competent authority to permit Indian banks to open their branches in foreign countries, grants such permission after consultation with the Government of India. The details of the branches of nationalised banks abroad, bank-wise and country-wise, is given in the Statement.

Statement

Country-wise branches of Nationalised Banks at Overseas Centres as on 1st April, 2001

Name of the Country	Bank of India	Bank of Baroda	Indian Bank	Indian Overseas Bank	uco Bank	Canara Bank	Syndicate Bank
Sri Lanka	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
United Kingdom	6	7	—	—	—	1	1
United States of America	2	1					
Japan	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bahama Island (Nassau)	—	1					
Belgium	—	I					
Singapore	I	—	1	1	2	—	—
Hongkong	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
Cayman Islands	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Channel Islands	1						
Fiji Island	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
Kenya	2	—	—	—	—	—	—

Name of the Country	Bank of India	Bank of Baroda	Indian Bank	Indian Overseas Bank	UCO Bank	Canara Bank	Syndicate Bank
Mauritius	—	8					
United Arab Emirates	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Seychelles	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
South Africa	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
South Korea	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Sultanate of Oman	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:	18	38	3	6	4	1	1

Waiver of loan to Orissa

2536. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to waive all pending loans as requested by Orissa; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Orissa is unable to release the matching grants for the irrigation projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Government of India has no proposal to waive the pending loans of Government of Orissa beyond the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission.

(b) Release of assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for major/medium and minor irrigation schemes is guided by the norms of AIBP. Accordingly, instalments of Central Loan Assistance (CLA) is released only after the State Government has contributed its share. An amount of Rs. 100 crore was released during 2000-01 under AIBP.

Defaulter of Bank Loans

2537. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of 200 persons/parties/companies who have the largest amounts as overdue to Public Sector Banks;